Unmanaged Apple and Pear Tree Outreach Program

- A Cooperative Effort among:
  - UC Cooperative Extension, Lake County CA, including Master Gardeners
  - Oregon State University Southern OR Experiment Station/Jackson County CE
  - UC Kearney Ag Center GIS Unit
  - Local Pest Control Advisers and Growers
  - Local citizens

- To preserve the effectiveness of Mating Disruption
Basis Of This New Program

- **New ordinance** passed by the BOS: #2895
- Needed due to large number of **unmanaged trees** hindering mating disruption programs
- If not controlled, more spraying is necessary
- Ag Commissioner worked with PCAs and Farm Bureau to develop and forward the ordinance
- Previous ordinances specify fire blight and pear psylla, **NOT** **codling moth**
- Need for an **educational program to minimize regulatory actions**: U.A.P.T.O.P.
WHAT IS AN “UNMANAGED” TREE?

- Within ¼ mile of a commercial pear orchard
- Not pruned at bloom time
- No proof/record of effective pest control
- Not specific to a pest, but mostly pertains to codling moth, fire blight, pear scab, pear psylla, blister mites
- **Attention to non-commercial owners** (ranchette, backyard)
- includes orchards re-sprouting from rootstock, see picture:
Educational Program Timeline and Components

- Grant received from Western IPM Center and Pear Pest Management Research Fund for Lake and Jackson Counties (same problem)

- 2 years:
  - Year 1, map trees/develop materials
  - Year 2, carry out outreach, evaluate success

- Components:
  - Map trees within ¼ mile of commercial orchard
  - Create interactive, multi-layered (mapping incl.) website
  - Develop (bilingual) outreach materials
  - Incorporate program into Master Gardener activities
  - Hold workshops/demonstrations on IPM techniques
THE REAL SOLUTION IS TO REMOVE THESE TREES

- MAIN GOAL OF PROGRAM:
  - Encourage REMOVAL of unmanaged apple and pear trees and replace them, if necessary, with either shade or other fruit tree from our “Recommended Low Maintenance Tree List”
  - Working to find sources of ‘give-away’ trees
  - Lake County Pear Association will provide a box of fruit if a tree is removed; up to 2 boxes
  - 2 community members are willing to help with tree removal
ALTERNATIVE TO REMOVAL

- Teach IPM techniques:
  - Proper pruning
  - Fruit thinning
  - Sanitation
  - Monitoring
- Use of benign materials: granulosis virus, oil
- Pheromones not applicable for backyard trees
  (4-5 acres min. for it to be effective)
WHAT WE TELL GROWERS

- Help us locate trees
- Educate neighbors about how much sprays have been reduced by using pheromones
- Ask them if they would be willing to remove trees they are not taking care of (there is a chipping program, and you can tell them about the boxes of fruit provided by Lake County Pear Association)
- Pass out the leaflet we have created
- NOT TO BE SHY! IT’S THEIR LIVELIHOOD! THEY HAVE THE ORDINANCE TO BACK THEM UP!
Unmanaged Apple and Pear Tree Outreach Program (UAPTOP)

Preserving Rural Landscapes in Lake County, CA and Jackson County, OR

The pear industry faces serious threats from unmanaged pear and apple trees in backyards and on other properties formerly in commercial production. Unless properly cared for, such trees may serve as hosts for pests and diseases which can spread to commercial crops and result in unnecessary chemical treatments. Growers, educators and local public agencies teamed up to develop a multi-faceted program to address this problem.

This website was created to support the Unmanaged Apple and Pear Tree Program (UAPTOP). From this portal the general public and research personnel can find resources and educational material.

Click on “Enter Public Site” to find out why the trees around your home may be putting commercial trees at risk. Then use the UAPTOP Interactive Mapping Website to locate your trees on a county map and receive an instant report on any potential risk your trees may pose to nearby commercial orchards.

Click on “Enter Research Site” to participate in ongoing collaborative university and stakeholder research.
Attention: you are within 1/4 mile of a commercial pear orchard and therefore required to have proof of effective pest management, if you have apple or pear trees on your property. You can choose to remove your apple or pear tree(s) instead, if you do not want to manage them. For information on effective pest management, refer to the links on this web site or contact your local Extension office at (707)263-6838.
unmanaged trees / orchards marked with red dots, puffers marked with green dots
U.A.P.T.O.P. - themed Master Gardener Fair Booth at the 2010 Lake County Fair

Including a real unmanaged pear tree, decorated with “pest” ornaments
U.A.P.T.O.P. Powerpoint continuously running at Master Gardener Booth (next to IPM Kiosk)
The 2011 UCCE Lake County Master Gardener Calendar is U.A.P.T.O.P. – themed (and sold at Farmers’ Markets, Feed Stores, Nurseries, Fairs, Public Events)
Results of Postcard Survey so far:

Attached to every 2011 Calendar we sell is a brief survey on a self-addressed, pre-stamped envelope (the return rate for survey postcards so far is close to 10%):

1. Have you been aware of the problem that unmanaged apple and pear trees pose to commercial pear orchards in Lake County prior to purchasing this calendar? Yes: 50% No: 50%

2. If yes, where did you hear about it:
   a) in the paper: 25%
   b) from MGs: 33.3%
   c) other: 8.3%

3. Was the calendar helpful in explaining the issue? Yes: 91.6% No: 0% N/A: 8.3%

4. Did the information presented influence your own decision about managing or eliminating apple or pear trees you might have in your back yard? Yes: 41.6% No: 16.6% N/A: 41.6%

5. If yes, did you
   a) decide to take your apple/pear tree out: 0%
   b) decide to properly manage it: 25%
   c) decide not to buy apple or pear trees: 16.6%
   d) other (not within ¼ mile): 8.3%
   c) N/A (don’t have apple / pear trees): 50%